

Message Text

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22

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05

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FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7534

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JAKARTA 14245

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, ID, ETRD

SUBJECT: POSSIBILITY OF INCREASED TOURISM TO GOI

REF: (A) JAKARTA 14198, (B) STATE 258978

1. DURING RECENT CALL BY EMBOFFS ON GEORGE RISAKOTTA, DIRECTOR FOR AIR TRAFFIC, TO EXPLAIN SAME POINTS MADE TO SUHONO (REF A) RE CURRENT CIVAIR SITUATION, EMBOFF ASKED ABOUT RECENT NEWS REPORTS IN WHICH MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS SALIM REPORTEDLY ANNOUNCED "NEW MEASURES TO FURTHER PROMOTE THE INDONESIAN TOURISM INDUSTRY." HE WAS FURTHER QUOTED AS SAYING THAT OPENING NEW AIR ROUTES IS INTENDED TO BRING IN MORE FOREIGN TRAVELERS, THE PURPOSE OF WHICH IS TO BOOAT FOREIGN EXCHANGE INCOME.

2. RISAKOTTA EXPRESSED SURPRISE THAT SALIM WOULD HAVE MADE SUCH PRO-TOURISM STATEMENTS, BUT DID CONCEDE THAT A PROPOSAL TO INCREASE TOURISM FROM LESS THAN 350,000 LAST YEAR TO 1.5 MILLION BY 1979 IS NOW ON THE MINISTER'S DESK. THE PROPOSAL FOLLOWS DEMANDS FOR RELIEF FROM LOCAL HOTEL OPERATORS, WHOSE 12,000 ROOMS ARE APPARENTLY CONSIDERABLY UNDERUTILIZED. RISAKOTTA SAID THE PRIMARY MEANS OF INCREASING TOURISM WOULD BE THROUGH GREATLY INCREASED CHARTER FLIGHTS. BUT HE CAUTIONED THAT IN VIEW OF SALIM'S

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LONG-STANDING PRACTICE OF DOING NOTHING WHICH MIGHT UNDER-

CUT GARUDA, MINISTERIAL APPROVAL FOR THE NEW POLICY MAY NOT
BE FORTHCOMING.
NEWSOM

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NNN

Message Attributes

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